

PSYCHE.

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EDITED BY B. PICKMAN MANN.

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Early Spring Butterflies at the White Mountains.

DURING four sunny days (June 2-5) spent in the Glen this spring, in a search for butterflies, the following species were noticed. The wild cherries were just blossoming.

Basilarchia Disippe. Two or three larvæ were seen on poplar, of just the same size as others of the next species near them.

Basilarchia Arthemis. The caterpillars were found not uncommon upon the black birch; one upon poplar, on the same twig with *Disippe*. All had left their hibernacula, which precisely resemble those of the preceding species, and had moulted at least once; the first moult almost invariably takes place on their emerging from winter quarters, as proved by the pellicle left upon the tip of the leaf forming the hibernaculum. As search for the caterpillar was the principal object of my visit, I must have examined nearly five thousand plants of black birch; the result proves that the eggs are laid almost exclusively upon horizontally extended branches of small plants not more than two or three feet high, skirting the road-side, so that the caterpillars must almost invariably be buried in snow the winter through. The caterpillars are generally lighter colored than those of the preceding species, but resemble them wonderfully. The first caterpillar changed to chrysalis the night of June 7th, and emerged the morning of the 18th.

Polygona Faunus. The butterfly was very abundant, the males far exceeding the females in number; the latter were apparently not yet prepared to deposit their eggs.

Polygona gracilis. This butterfly was rather common, and what is strange, many more females than males were taken; they could not be induced to lay eggs under muslin during my

short visit, and died just after the journey home. One left behind in a muslin bag, on willow, was found a week afterward, by Mr. Whitney, to have died without depositing.

Polygonia Progne. A single female was taken; it has never before been found in this region.

Nymphalis J-album. One or two specimens only were seen on the 4th, apparently just out of winter quarters; they appear later, I believe, than other hibernating Præfecti, and these were seen on the sunny side of a barn, which had probably served as their winter refuge.

Papilio Antiopa. Half a dozen specimens were seen.

Aglais Milberti. A single female was taken.

S. H. Scudder.

ENTOMOLOGICAL EXCURSION TO WAVERLEY.—On the 7th of May the members of the Club, to the number of half a dozen, made an excursion to the vicinity of Waverley. The day proved unfavorable, as there was a raw wind which kept the insects out of sight, and, very little was accomplished.

Of Coleoptera very few specimens were taken, and those of common species, the most noteworthy being a specimen of *Badister notatus*, a species which is rare in this vicinity, and *Dicælus elongatus*, common about Waverley, though rare elsewhere in the vicinity of Boston.

Of Lepidoptera Mr. Morrison obtained a perfect specimen of *Anticlea vasiliata* Guen., a species not common in this vicinity.

Caterpillars of *Basilarchia Disippe* were obtained on three species of willows, either eating the catkins for want of leaves, or still concealed in their hibernacula. The observations of the party showed that they hibernate both in the second and third stages, and that each makes a winter abode of just the size of its body, into which it crawls head foremost, and which it must vacate in the spring by a retreating movement. The caterpillar moults very soon after re-appearing, and one was found nearly half grown upon a twig still bearing only catkins.

E. P. Austin.

VERNACULAR NAMES FOR BUTTERFLIES.—EDITOR PSYCHE: I very much approve of Mr. Scudder's list of vernacular names for our butterflies. Permit me to stand sponsor in your columns for the following:

Calephelis borealis. — The large Metal-mark.

Calephelis punila. — The small Metal-mark.

Feniseca Tarquinus. — The Wanderer.

Aug. R. Grote.